

Message Text

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FM USDEL JEC PARIS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USDEL JEC PARIS 27747

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: VS, PINT

SUBJECT: GVN-PRG BILATERALS: 29TH PLENARY SESSION, OCTOBER 25,
1973

1. SUMMARY. THE SESSION CONSISTED SOLELY OF MUTUAL RECRIMINATIONS, EACH SIDE CONDEMNING THE OTHER FOR ESCALATING THE WARFARE IN SVN. THI (PRG) TRIED TO CONDEMN THE US FOR ALLEGEDLY PERSISTENT AND DELIBERATE SABOTAGE OF THE AGREEMENT. HE DEMANDED THAT THE US END ALL MILITARY SUPPORT TO THE GVN AND WITHDRAW ALL US "MILITARY ADVISORS AND INTELLIGENCE AGENTS". THE PRG DEL STAGED A "PROTEST" MOVE BY PROPOSING THE TALKS RECONVENE OCT 31 AND WALKING OUT BEFORE THE GVNDL COULD RESPOND. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE GVNDL COUNTERPROPOSAL WILL POSTPONE THE TALKS UNTIL NOV 8. END SUMMARY.

2. IT WAS THE GVNDL'S TURN TO SPEAK FIRST. NGUYEN XUAN PHONG, DEPUTY CHIEF OF DELEGATION, REPLACED DEPUTY PRIMI VIEN, ABSENT FROM PARIS ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS. REPROACHING THE PRG FOR ITS OCTOBER 4 WALKOUT, PHONG ASKED RHETORICALLY HOW THE OTHER SIDE COULD CLAIM TO SEEK NATIONAL RECONCILIATION YET REFUSED SERIOUS DIALOGUE AT ST. CLOUD. PHONG HELD THAT THE PRG ATTITUDE WAS PROOF THAT IT HAD NOT RELINQUISHED ITS "DREAM OF CONQUEST"

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PREPARING THE WAY FOR COMMUNIZATION OF ALL VIET-NAM BY THE DRV.

3. TO ILLUSTRATE THIS CHARGE PHONG SAID THAT OVER 70,000 NVA TROOPS, 400 TANKS, 200 ARTILLERY PIECE, AND HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF TONS OF MUNITIONS WERE INFILTRATED INTO SVN BY THE OTHER SIDE SINCE JANUARY, WHILE AT LEAST 12 AIRFIELDS HAD BEEN BUILT OR RECONSTRUCTED AND EQUIPPED WITH NEW MODELS OF WEAPONS, HE ALSO MENTIONED COMMUNIST ATTACKS ON TONG LE CHAM, LE MINH, BACH MA, AND CAU KHOI.

4. IN CLOSING, PHONG SAID THAT THE GVNDL'S PRESENCE WAS EVIDENCE OF ITS GOOD WILL; THE PRG SIDE MUST ABANDON THE "USELESS WORK" OF REPEATING GROUNDLESS ACCUSATIONS, CALUMNIES, AND PRECONDITIONS, OR BEA FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE IMPASSE AT THE TALKS.

5. DINH BA THI SPOKE FOR THE PRG IN PLACE OF HIEU BELIEVED TRAVELING IN EE. THI'S MAIN THEME WAS US-GVN "SYSTEMATIC SABOTAGE" OF THE AGREEMENT AND JOINT COMMUNIQUE. ALLEGING THAT PRESIDENT THIEU'S OCTOBER 20 SPEECH ANNOUNCED "NEW, EXTERMELY SERIOUS LEVELS OF ESCALATION" UNDER THE PRETEXT OF PRECLUSIVE WARFARE,

THI GAVE A LONG RECITATION OF ALLEGED GVN ATTACKS AND ATROCITIES. (THE LATTER INCLUDED "MASS MURDER" OF POLITICAL DETINEES AT O MON PRISON IN SEPTEMBER- OCTOBER).

6. THE US, THI'S ALLEGATIONS CONTINUED, HAD FURNISHED MORE THAN A HALF MILLION TONS OF ARMS, HUNDREDS OF AIRCRAFT, ARMORED VEHICLES, AND ARTILLERY PIECES SINCE JANUARY. "TENS OF THOUSANDS" OF US MILITARY ADVISORS LED ARVN, OFTEN PARTICIPATING DIRECTLY IN RVNAF OPERATIONS. THE US MUST CEASE DOING SO FORTHWITH AND MUST "WITHDRAW ALL ITS MILITARY PERSONNEL AND INTELLIGENCE AGENTS FROM SVN WITHOUT DELAY."

7. AS A SIGN OF PROTEST AGAINST ALLEGED GVN "VIOLATIONS AND SABOTAGE" OF THE AGREEMENT, THI DECLARED THAT THE SESSION WAS ENDED AND THE NEXT MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE OCTOBER 31.

8. WHILE THE GVNDL HELD NO PAST-SESSION PRESS CONFERENCE, AS USUAL, PRG SPOKESMAN SAU DID SO. SAU EXPANDED UPON THI'S ALLEGED INVENTORY OF US VIOLATIONS IN SVN. THUS THE US HAD CONFIDENTIAL

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"OVER TWENTY THOUSAND" DISGUISED MILITARY ADVISORS IN SVN, HAD BROUGHT IN 12,000 TONS OF MUTIONS IN MARCH, 16 M-48 TANKS IN JUNE, OVER 500 AIRCRAFT SINCE JANUARY, ETC. SAU HELD THAT SO MANY NEW VARIETIES OF WEAPONS HAD BEEN GIVEN ARVN THAT AN INCREASING FLOW OF US TECHNICIANS HAD BECOME NECESSARY FOR INSTALLATION, OPEATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF SUCH MATERIAL. HE STRESSED THE ALLEGATION THAT US INVOLVEMENT IN SVN HAD ONLY GROWN SINCE JANUARY.

9. GVNDEL INFORMED US THAT IT WILL PROBABLY PROPOSE, THROUGH
LIAISON OFFICERS, THAT THE NEXT MEETING BE HELD NOVEMBER 8.
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